



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

August 26, 2009

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
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MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

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Fourth District

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Fifth District

PROSPECTIVE ACTIVITY FOR THE GENERAL RELIEF OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORK PROGRAM (AGENDA ITEM 81-C - JUNE 16, 2009)

At the Board of Supervisors' meeting on June 16, 2009, Supervisor Molina requested that the Chief Executive Officer report back with information on allowing General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW) participants volunteer at food pantries as a GROW activity.

The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) supports the request to implement a Work Experience component that allows participants to provide voluntary services at food pantries. This component will give participants the opportunity to acquire work experience that could be used to build their resume and help them enhance their work habits.

To date, DPSS has determined that three food banks/pantries are interested in the project (LA Regional Food Bank, Westside Food Bank, and St. Margaret's Food pantry). Two other food pantries that are part of the Valley Interfaith Coalition are being contacted regarding their interest in participating. However, prior to implementing the Work Experience component, DPSS would like to research several provisions of the proposed component as indicated below:

- Determine the scope of services and meet with representatives from each agency to obtain more information;
- Develop a non-financial contract, or a similar instrument that satisfies the legal provisions of this Work Experience component by consulting with County Counsel before proceeding; and
- Determine which agencies are interested in this proposal. DPSS has discovered that some food pantries prefer to use volunteers from their own groups.

Due to the above, no participants have been referred to date. We anticipate implementation by December 2009.

WTF:SRH:JW
JB:cvb

c: Acting County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Department of Public Social Services

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